Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The Veterans of Foreign Wars, George Dokken Post 2118, Brookings, South Dakota, was founded on May 29, 1931, and will celebrate its 75th anniversary on May 20, 2006; and,

Whereas, The post is named in memory of George Dokken, son of Knute and Anne Dokken. He was the first Brookings soldier killed in action during World War I and his death occurred on November 3, 1918; and,

Whereas, The original post charter contains 22 names of veterans from the WWI era and several who had also served in the Spanish American War. The organization grew to a high of 406 in 1971, and its present membership is 311, of which 205 are life members; and,

Whereas, Veterans initially met in private homes and the Grand Army of the Republic Hall before the post home was located at 520 Main Avenue; and,

Whereas, George Dokken Post spends countless hours each year reaching out to assist with community projects that bring comfort and cheer to needy veterans, their widows and children, the handicapped, elderly and others who are confined to hospitals and nursing homes; and,

Whereas, George Dokken Post promotes programs for youth, including baseball, girl's softball, the Voice of Democracy writing contest and the Patriots Pen contest. The major goal is to instill patriotism and love of country into the hearts of youth and enhance civic pride:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 20, 2006, as

GEORGE DOKKEN VFW POST DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifteenth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State